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STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

...as the life style of this age grows more inter-disciplinary, it will be harder for the one-track mind to survive....I see simultaneous intake, multiple-awareness, and synthesized comprehension as inevitable, long before the year 2000 A.D..

Barbara Morgan

PLEASE RETURN



Montana State Library Annual
Report for Fiscal Year 1987/88

Diversification has become a necessity for libraries. To keep pace with in have become “multipally-aware.” Within the Montana State Library then to the exchange of information.



Parmly Billings Director Ellen Newberg; Flathead Library Director, Georgia Lomax; and former Montana State Librarian, Sara Parker accept an international John Cotton Dana Award for “exceptional library publications efforts.”

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

Library Development staff works for the growth of all Montana libraries. This goal is facilitated in a variety of ways. Consulting, administering funds, providing continuing education in librarianship, and maintaining a communications program with the Montana library community are ongoing functions of Library Development. The Library Development unit is responsible for coordinating the six library federations, comprising almost all public libraries in the state. Federations promote resource sharing and improved public library service.

- 1987 saw the completion of the “Core Collection in Rural Libraries” project. The project represented an innovative step forward in the field of library science. The project developed methodology to be used by librarians in deciding what materials to purchase for their libraries. Some of the ideas incorporated in the project include tailoring the library’s collection to its particular community and placing emphasis on quality rather than quantity when developing a collection.

- The Continuing Education Long Range Plan, completed in 1988, comprises a plan for continuing education for Montana library personnel based on the results of a statewide survey of those individuals.

- Library Development provided 30 onsite working consulting sessions at libraries throughout the state. They also furnished extensive telephone and written consultation to 41 public libraries.
- Library Development conducted or coordinated 18 workshops for librarians.
- Library Development published and distributed six newsletters to the Montana Library community and to interested parties nationally. To improve efficiency and timeliness of communications with the library community, they implemented The Montana State Library News Update, a bimonthly flyer, to replace first class mailings to librarians. They also published a directory of all libraries in the state for distribution to public libraries.
- Library boards of trustees and friends of libraries throughout the state are putting their efforts into building or remodeling libraries. Library Development assists them in facilitating their goals through administering Library and Construction Act funds and by providing guidance along the way.

In 1986 Library Services and Construction Act Title II construction matching grants were given to the Ennis, Hamilton and Polson public libraries. In 1987, matching grants to be used for construction went to the Fort Benton, Laurel and Butte/Silver Bow libraries.



A user of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped listens to a British mystery novel on a Talking Book machine.

ngly sophisticated information needs, libraries four divisions, each providing different services; all dedicated



Natural Heritage Program works with other agencies to study rare and unusual species for purposes so diverse as land reclamation, building of power lines, education and agriculture. Here in the Big Belts are Natural Heritage Program staff Steve Shelley and Forest Service employee, Lois Olsen finding *Lesquerella klausii*, a yellow-flowered member of the Brassicaceae family. The plant is found at only two sites in the world; one in Glacier National Park and one in Clark and Meagher Counties in Montana.

LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND SERVICES TO INSTITUTIONS

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and Services to Institutions provides services to Montanans who want to read but, because of physical disability or because they are in institutions are unable to readily enjoy this privilege.

For blind and physically handicapped individuals, the Library of Congress provides "talking books," recorded versions of books, to be distributed by the State Library. Persons who are institutionalized for any reason are served by the State Library by outreach programs provided through local libraries which provide access to printed as well as audio types of materials.

Through a program which began in 1968 books and magazines about Montana are recorded for the library's users by volunteers in Deer Lodge. In 1987 the program continued to expand with the addition of a second recording sound booth. The library also mass reproduce cassettes for the program.

In addition to the prison recording program, there are currently 13 other volunteers in Montana, including two Montana authors, recording books for the blind and physically

handicapped. The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped was also assisted by the addition of a new Telex duplicating machine for transfer of reel-to-reel tapes to cassettes. The Montana Association for the Blind purchased a cassette-to-cassette duplicator for the program as well.

In 1987/88 Services to Institutions provided ongoing information resources services to the state prison, the women's correctional center, Pine Hills School, Mountain View School and to the Galen campus of Warm Springs Hospital. They also contracted with four libraries in the state to service institutions in those libraries' communities. The Lewistown City Library provided library services to the Center for the Aged; Great Falls Public Library operated a bookmobile for the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind; the Glendive Public Library serviced the Eastmont Human Services Center and the Flathead County Library in Kalispell served the Swan River Forest Camp and the Montana Veterans' Home.



Supporters of the Laurel Public Library attended ground-breaking ceremonies on June 4, 1988. Projected completion of the new Laurel Library is October 29, 1988.

NATURAL RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM

The need for data about Montana's natural resources is rapidly increasing. Montana is a state which makes its living in a very direct sense from the land. Wheat farmers, state agencies, mining companies and those who serve visitors to the state, among many others, all need timely access to natural resources information. With these needs in mind and the need to centralize a bibliographic source, the 1985 legislature created the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) and the Montana Natural Heritage Program.

NRIS is "responsible for developing statewide indices and databases for each of Montana's natural resources." Its subdivision, the Natural Heritage Program "provides a comprehensive inventory of significant elements of the state's natural features that are exemplary, rare or unique."

Developed within NRIS in FY 87/88, were the Water Information System and the Geographic Information System. These two subdivisions are making important contributions in 1988.

The Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for cleaning up the Clark Fork River in the Butte/Anaconda area. The project will require comprehensive information about the river and the surrounding area. Their main source of mapping data will be NRIS.

In FY 87/88 the Natural Heritage Program assisted a variety of state agencies in Montana. These included, among others, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of State Lands, Administration, Department of State Lands, Department of Agriculture and the Department of Natural Resource Conservation. In addition, they assisted private industry in Montana with hundreds of requests.

One of the projects involved development of a comprehensive classification for eastern Montana grasslands. Another was the compilation of the Managed Area Abstracts which contains summary information on location, size, ownership, management and history of all major publicly-owned lands in Montana.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

Montana State Library's reference department and the technical services department merged to form "Information Resources." There were also changes in the physical arrangement of the library to create a better environment for library users and to make access to materials easier for them.

Last fiscal year marked the beginning of a new era of document delivery for Montana libraries. The State Library is part of an ever-growing network among Montana libraries who are using telefacsimile equipment to transfer facsimiles of library materials.

The information network was also enhanced through the addition of an 800 number to enable librarians throughout Montana to call the State Library with questions they are unable to answer for their users because of their limited reference collections. In FY 1987/88 the library added 1,779 titles to its monograph collection, 11,304 volumes of federal government publications and 257 new state government publication titles.

Information Resources served state government by providing to state employees 7,292 information requests and 680 online searches. State employees checked out 6,967 items from the library.

Information Resources served Montana's libraries by responding to their 3,876 information requests and 503 online searches. They also circulated 4,172 items to other libraries and distributed 8,612 state government publications to 18 public, academic and special libraries in Montana.

Montana State Library Funding Summary

General Fund	\$548,652
Coal Severance Tax	\$299,000
Library Services and Construction Act	\$564,538
Private Special Revenue	
Kellogg Foundation	\$48,500
Miscellaneous	\$3,000
Natural Resource Information System	
State Special Revenue	\$271,108
Federal Special Revenue	\$35,000
Total	\$1,769,798
Expenditures	
Operating Expenditures	\$912,409
Equipment	\$133,343
Grants	
From State Sources (CST)	\$229,916
From Federal Sources (LSCA)	\$212,664
Natural Resources Information System	
Operating Expenditures	\$281,466
Total	\$1,769,798

Montana State Library Commission

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